

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /006 R

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DRAFTED BY:P:PMARTINEZ:DP

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 241552

FOR HABIB FROM MARTINEZ

FOLLOWING REPEAT TOKYO 14515 ACTION SECSTATE, INFO COMUSJAPAN,  
CINCPAC DTD 28 SEP 76.

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 14515

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: MIG 25

1. IN SEPTEMBER 28 MEETING WITH EMBOFF, FONOFF SECURITY  
DIVISION CHIEF SATO EMPHASIZED THAT THERE WAS VIRTUALLY  
NO PROSPECT FOR EXTENSION OF CURRENT USFJ OVERT ACCESS  
TO MIG BEYOND OCTOBER 3 DEADLINE. HE SAID PRIME MINISTER  
HAD RELUCTANTLY APPROVED EXTENSION BUT WAS ANXIOUS TO  
CONCLUDE MIG EXAMINATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. SATO SAID,  
HOWEVER, THAT AFTER OCTOBER 3. JSDF COULD PROVIDE  
COMPONENTS FOR USFJ EXAMINATION ELSEWHERE ON COVERT BASIS  
AND THAT JSDF MIGHT AT SOME LATER STAGE REQUEST USFJ OVERT TECHNI-  
CAL ASSISTANCE TO PREPARE MIG FOR RETURN TO SOVIETS. JDA VICE MINI-  
STER MARUYAMA CONFIRMED THESE POINTS IN SUBSEQUENT MEETING  
WITH DCM AND POL/C.

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2. DURING INTERPELLATIONS SEPTEMBER 27, MIKI INFORMED DIET OF GOJ INTENT TO RETURN MIG AFTER JSDF EXAMINATION COMPLETED, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT NORMAL INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE AND NEED TO PRESERVE BASICALLY FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH SOVIETS. MIKI EMPHASIZED THAT JSDF CONDUCTING INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION, WITH US ROLE LIMITED TO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

3. EDITORIALS IN MAJOR DAILIES, INCLUDING, ASAHI, YOMIURI AND MAINICHI HAVE BEGUN TO CALL FOR PROMPT RETURN OF MIG TO SOVIETS. WHILE COMPLAINING ABOUT SOVIET FAILURE TO APOLOGIZE FOR MIG INTRUSION, EDITORIALS HAVE EMPHASIZED MIG AFFAIR MUST NOT DAMAGE RELATIONS WITH SOVIETS AND HAVE EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM ABOUT GOJ CLAIM TO BE CONDUCTING INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION. JDA SOURCE CONFIRMED SWING IN MEDIA POSITION AND EXPRESSED OPINION THAT MOST JAPANESE FELT THE GOJ HAD RETAINED THE PLANE LONG ENOUGH AND THAT "THERE WAS NOT NEED TO RUB IT IN" TO SOVIETS.

4. CITING GOVERNMENT SOURCES, YOMIURI REPORTED GOJ DECISION TO TERMINATE MIG INSPECTION ON OCTOBER 5. YOMIURI SAID FONMIN WOULD INFORM GROMYKO IN NEW YORK OF GOJ READINESS TO RETURN MIG IF REQUESTED AND TO BEGIN ARRANGEMENTS FOR ITS RETURN.

5. PRESS ALSO REPORTED THAT SOVIET POLITICAL COUNSELOR CALLED ON FONOFF TO REITERATE POINTS MADE IN TWO EARLIER PORTESTS BY AMBASSADOR POLYANSKI. SEPARATELY, ASAHI QUOTED ASSERTION BY TOKYO SOVIET SOURCE THAT MIG AFFAIR COULD AFFECT JAPAN-SOVIET ECONOMIC COOPERATION. ONLY RETALIATION SEEN SO FAR IS CANCELLATION OF USSR VISIT BY GO (JAPANESE CHESS) TEAM.

HODGSON

UNQTE: ROBINSON

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